GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3490
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2001
DISTANCE EDUCATION SCHEME
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have encouraged students to enroll through the distance education scheme at the WIPO University;

(b) if so, the kind of assistance being given for Indian students to learn more about Intellectual Property Rightsthrough the WIPO university;

(c) whether any links are being developed between WIPO and Indian universities;

(d) whether any policy or scheme has been finalised in this regard; and

(e) if so, the role of the UGC in finalising links betweenIndian universities and WIPO to de-mistify the knowledge aspectof Intellectual Property Rights?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR.MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) & (b) World Intellectual Property Organisationi s a specialised agency of United Nations which deals with Intellectual Property Rights issues. The Worldwide Academy, WIPOwas founded in March, 1998 in order to assist Member State attain specialised knowledge and skills and enable them to derive benefits from the Intellectual Property System. The academy conducts a course in distance mode titled Introduction to Intellectual Property. It does not carry any fee and any student is free to join.

(c), (d) & (e) In order to promote IPR studies the Ministry ofHuman Resource Development has two ongoing schemes to encourage study of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and copyright matters:

(i) Scheme for financial assistance for Intellectual Property Rights Studies aims at encouraging study of IPRs in the Universities and other recognized institutions of higher education to create general awareness about IP matters among the academic community and to develop specialized courses on IPRs.

(ii) Scheme for organizing seminars and workshops on copyright matters envisages training of enforcement personnel as well as creation of public awareness about copyright related issues.

In order to promote study in IPR, the Ministry has also setup five Chairs in Delhi, Allahabad, Pune, Chennai University and National Law School, Bangalore.

As the Ministry of Human Resource Developmentis the nodal Ministry to interact with WIPO on academic mattersan International Conference on Intellectual PropertyEducation and Training was organized in July, 2001 by Ministry of Human Resource Development in collaboration with WIPO and IIT, Delhi to promote education and research in IPR's.